

From: Charles Faulkner
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

In this era of bad economic times, the news of a proposed settlement between the federal government and Microsoft was most welcome. I just hope that the settlement is not unfairly torpedoed during the public comment period.

This settlement was not proposed by Microsoft merely as a way of extracting itself from this litigation. The settlement contains a number of substantial changes in Microsoft's business practices and the proposal has met the preliminary approval of a court-appointed settlement mediator. The most significant concession in my opinion is Microsoft's agreement to grant broad new rights to computer makers to configure Windows operating systems so as to promote competition from non-Microsoft software programs. Both competitors and consumers should applaud these moves.

Please don't allow all of the hard work put in reaching this settlement to have been a waste of time. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles Faulkner

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